

The Asistencia San Antonio de Pala
Pala, San Diego County,
California

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of California

Historic American Buildings Survey
Henry F. Withey, District Officer
407 So. Western Avenue,
Los Angeles, California

The Asistencia of San Antonio de Pala
Pala, San Diego County, California.

Owner: Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego,
1528 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, California.

Date of erection: 1816

Architect:

Builder: Indian labor under the direction of the Padres of
the San Luis Rey Mission.

Present Condition: The chapel, living quarters and campanario are fairly well preserved in their restored condition though roof framing of chapel is much decayed. . The north end of living quarter has at some time been altered to provide for use as a general store, and an addition made on east side to provide modern living rooms for store keeper.

Number of stories: One.

Materials of construction: Field stone foundation laid in lime mortar. Walls of sun dried adobe brick laid in adobe mortar, originally adobe plastered both sides and white washed. Exterior has been replastered with lime mortar and white washed.

Original roof framing of church or chapel and parts of living quarters has been replaced with cedar logs, rough pine furring and covered with tile, a large part of which appears to be original.

Milled Oregon pine lumber has been used in reconstructing, balance of roofs in Living quarters.

Flooring of chapel is of 9 x 9 x 2" tile. Floor of chancel is cement as well as in floor of arcade at front. On the exterior of chapel the walls at grade have been protected with a concrete base.

Doors, sash, shutters and frames are of pine, white washed. Original window opening's were closed with shutters, no sash. Original wall decorations on the interior of the chapel were painted by Indians. Some years ago possibly twenty-five these were painted over when walls were being re-whitewashed. At some period since, the decorations were restored with new colors and additional designs. Old photographs show that the original artistry has been much lost in being done over.

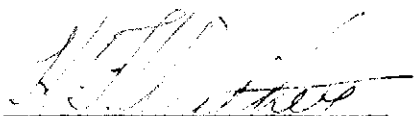
The original campanario was destroyed in 1916 during a winter of heavy rains. It was rebuilt to same design and measurements with a concrete foundation in place of adobe and faced with stone, and tower of brick; plastered cemetery walls, partly in ruins, have been rebuilt with adobe brick plastered and topped off with concrete coping.

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Other existing records: Fr. Zephyrin Engelhardt, O.F.M.
"Mission and Missionaries of California", Rexford Newcomb,
"The Old Mission Churches and Historic Houses of California",
H. H. Bancroft, "History of California". Bound copies of the
"Out west Magazine", 1902.

Additional Data: This building was in a much ruined condition
when the Landmarks club of Southern California headed by
Charles F. Lummis made an investigation of the state of the
premises in 1901 and set in motion a movement to repair the
structure. In the next two years the chapel and adjoining
apartments were reroofed. The walls of the church were repaired
and the adobe piers carrying the corridor roof were restored.



June 1, 1937.